

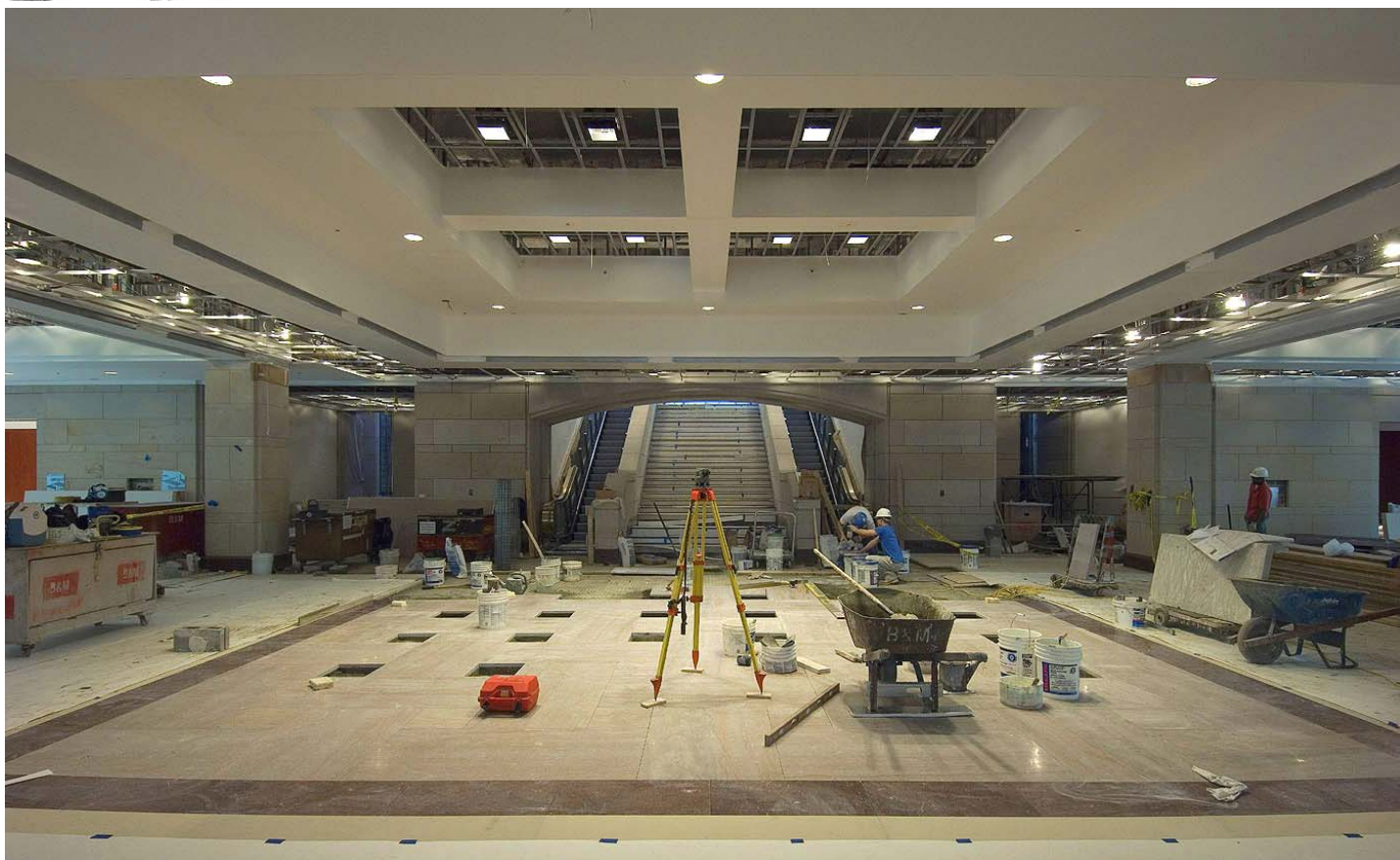


United States Capitol Visitor Center Weekly Construction Summary



Prepared by the Capitol Visitor Center Project Office, Architect of the Capitol

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Masons set floor stone in a lobby at the base of the transition zone (center of photo) between the CVC and the Capitol. Following the completion of this area late this week, the masons will move to a north side corridor to complete the last major area of floor stone in the CVC.

This Week – Ongoing Work – 3/12/07 through 3/16/07

- In the Food Service Area workers continue installing the various counter and cabinet components, including doors, hardware and bronze elements in the servery area, while other crews continue to install equipment in the kitchen.
- In the Exhibition Hall, workers have installed all of the document cases within both sides of the Wall of Aspirations. Air duct is now being installed in the while other crews continue installing the glass floor panels down the center of the hall. Ceiling panel installation is nearly complete in the south half of the Hall.
- The first of three sets of bronze doors at the entrance to the Library of Congress tunnel has been installed. Overall, fabrication of custom bronze doors is behind schedule, but the contractor has increased efforts to expedite the process. Temporary doors will be installed where necessary to allow for the start of the smoke control pre-testing process to begin this spring.
- Masons continue setting an average of 80 sandstone blocks per day in the East Front of the Capitol. Stonework rises some 20 feet at several locations and masons are now setting stone in the south stair, around the historic bronze Columbus Doors at the exterior wall of the East Front, and around the elevator openings at the Rotunda level.
- In the East Front transition zone the escalator contractor continues installing the secondary mechanical elements to bring the escalators to an operational status. Bronze façade cladding components for the escalators have been delivered.
- Masons continue setting floor stone in the upper level west lobby in the area previously occupied by the escalators and are approximately 80 percent complete in this zone (see photo above).
- Ceiling drywall installation and plaster work continue at the Crypt level within the East Front.
- Carpet installation is complete in one of two meeting rooms near the Congressional Auditorium.

- Masons have completed most of the stone work on the walls flanking the north and south monumental stairs and along the north and south entrance approaches. Masons have completed setting granite pavers (for areas that are available) along the north and south stepped walkways between the two rows of trees on both sides. Workers have begun placing the gravel bed for the north entrance ramp. Concrete placements for the ramp may begin later this week. An aggregate sidewalk, similar to other sidewalks around the Capitol campus, will mark the finished surface.
- Workers have completed installation of electric and telecom wiring below the Congressional Auditorium floor and all of the concrete floor panels have been re-installed. Concrete patchwork is ongoing to seal the seams between the floor structure and the removable concrete floor panels.
- Workers continue to install millwork to the walls in corridors adjacent to the Congressional Auditorium.
- Steel and concrete placements are complete for the structure and slabs of a spiral staircase in the Senate Expansion Space. Three of four staircase “runs” are in place for the spiral stair in the House Expansion Space.



Bronze railings, millwork, and stone work are complete in the North Orientation Theater.

Next Week – 3/19/07 – 3/23/07

CVC and East Front Plaza Work

- Floor stone installation will be completed in the upper level west lobby at the base of the CVC transition zone and will move into the elevator lobby at that level. Masons will also set floor stones in a corridor near the north orientation theater. Floor stone covers 126,000 square feet in the CVC, equivalent to three football fields.
- Escalator assembly will continue in the transition zone between the CVC and the East Front of the Capitol. Ceiling work will continue at the Crypt level and stone installation will continue at the Rotunda level.
- In the Great Hall, workers may begin dismantling the scaffolding that was necessary to balance and test the air handling system in the ceiling. Masons will then resume setting stones in the water fountains at the base of the Great Hall east staircases.
- Workers will continue installing the glass floor panels in the Exhibition Hall. Ceiling panel installation will continue on the north side of the Hall.
- Ceiling panel installation will begin in the Virtual House Theater around the decorative plaster ceiling.
- Crews will complete installation of sealing the concrete floor panels in the Congressional Auditorium. Also in the Auditorium, workers will continue installing ceiling millwork over speaker components.
- Installation of kitchen equipment and cabinetry components will continue in the Food Service Area. All flooring and wall finishes are completed. Mechanical crews are expected to begin balancing and testing the Food Service air handling system.
- Masons will continue setting exterior stone along the south side CVC entrance zone, particularly for the piers between the bronze railings that line the curving path at the Plaza level.
- Installation of wood and bronze door frames will continue in many areas throughout the CVC.
- Masons have completed close to 75 percent of floor stone work in both CVC gift shops.



A gravel bed has been placed along the north entrance ramp in preparation for the placement of an aggregate concrete sidewalk that will look and feel like the sidewalks throughout the Capitol campus.

For additional information about the CVC project, contact the project communications officer, Tom Fontana, at fontana@aoc.gov or visit the project web site at www.aoc.gov. Be sure to click on the “Capitol Visitor Center” link on the homepage.